

EXTRA TWO KILLED.

Fatal Results of a Premature Explosion of Dynamite.

ONE MAN BLOWN TO ATOMS.

Ninety Cartridges Explode at a New Reservoir at Baldwin's.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

ROCKVILLE, CEN. L. I., March 13.—A terrible explosion of dynamite occurred at the new Brooklyn reservoir, which is being excavated for near Baldwin's, this morning. Ninety dynamite cartridges blew up at once. The report was terrific, and was heard for miles about.

Peter Stafney, the foreman in charge of the work, was blown to atoms.

A young son of Horace Smith, of Baldwin's, was killed.

Stafney's arms were blown 300 feet away in different directions. Other portions of his body are missing.

Young Smith's body was also torn in pieces.

It is hoped that no others have been killed.

Dallas Raynor and Thomas Baldwin were maimed and disfigured in a terrible manner. Although still alive, it is feared that they cannot survive the day.

Baldwin's legs were broken and terribly twisted. He is suffering indescribable torture.

The dynamite was being used by Contractor Free to blow up stumps. Just how the explosion occurred cannot yet be ascertained.

Stafney had charge of the blasting. One story is that he was throwing the cartridges out by a small fire at the roadside, and that young Smith was assisting him.

There are a great many men employed on the new water-works. All of them have not yet been accounted for. The first report was that seven men were blown to pieces.

Stafney and Smith are the only two known to be dead at the present writing, and no traces of any other bodies have been found.

The workmen say that when the cartridges exploded all of them that could do so took to their heels and ran away, so it is thought that the few men who have not been accounted for may yet be found.

Many of the men in the vicinity were knocked flat by the force of the concussion, and not a few of them were badly bruised.

Fragments of the clothing worn by Stafney and Smith were found at a great distance when they mangled remains came to be hunted up. Stafney's arms were bent and twisted like old rags. Neither of the men could be recognized by his face.

The boy's size identified him, and Stafney's boots and trousers established his personality beyond a doubt. He was always considered a careful man by his employer and used to handling dynamite, but his comrades say he would frequently take chances with the explosive if necessary to hasten the work.

He was heard to say yesterday that he thought that was frost in some of the dynamite cartridges, and that he would have to "fix them this morning."

Contractor Free does not believe that any one was throwing out the cartridges, or that the explosion occurred in this way.

He thinks that the premature explosion of a blast on another part of the works set the ninety cartridges off.

Another account of the disaster states that Stafney was seated on the ground with the ninety cartridges in his lap. He was close to the fire. The survivors can account for his criminal carelessness in exposing the dynamite to such risk of explosion on the theory that he was crazy.

There are some who believe he deliberately caused the explosion to annihilate himself and the others. The explosion occurred at exactly 9:50 A. M.

The coroner has charge of the case now.

Classen Hearing Put Off Till Monday

Commissioner Shields to-day postponed the further examination of Peter J. Classen until Monday, at the request of Classen's lawyer Gen. Foster, who has formed a partnership with ex-Chief Clerk-Attorney Tenney of Brooklyn.

The latter wishes to cross-examine J. Ernest Watson, and asked him to read the evidence previously taken.

Gov. Laid Remonstrated

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 13.—The Rhode Island Republican State convention to-day remonstrated Gov. Laid.

17-year Eighteen is Poor. Improve it

By using Cutler's Little Liver Pills. 25c each.

FLACK JOY COMPLETE

The Twelfth Man Took His Place at 4 O'clock.

All Ready Now for the Great Conspiracy Trial.

Mrs. Flack Still Waiting in the Vanderbilt Hotel.

The tedious work of examining citizens and searching for twelve unblinded peers of James A. Flack, William L. Flack and Joseph Meeks, was resumed before Justice Barrett in the Court of Oyer and Terminer to-day with a languor befitting the feverish spring weather.

The jurors in the box tried hard to keep in their spirits by reading the funny papers, only No. 11, chosen last yesterday, evincing any interest in the proceedings.

No. 11 is George Grosse, a plumber at 534 Second avenue.

The lawyers for the defense discovered that Foreman George L. Herrick, who had occupied the first seat in the box Monday, was an employee of a firm who had been beaten in a lawsuit in which Judge Horace Russell and John H. Bird had been the opposing counsel, and he was excused by consent.

There were, therefore, but ten chairs occupied when the day began, the first of which being vacant, and the second, Mr. M. E. Flack, quietly awaiting at the Vanderbilt Hotel the District Attorney's call, unmolested by the importunities of her husband and son, is rapidly recovering from the nervous prostration resultant on the exciting and distracting event, that have rushed into this last year of her life, and she will undoubtedly be in condition to appear as a witness to-morrow.

The Flacks and Joe Meeks were more sorely tried to-day, and even the Sheriff took "forty winks" occasionally in his shirt collar.

Laurel W. Wood, a clerk at 340 Sixth street, confessed to having lived twenty-four years, and then frankly acknowledged that he was anxious to get on the jury because he wanted to learn something.

He would make a model juror, for he did not know that James A. Flack held a slightly sympathetic nature, but had no been a candidate.

He had heard of the case only since he came into court, and though he was of a slightly sympathetic nature, he had no hesitancy in assuring Prosecutor Goff that the fact that Will Flack was a son of Mrs. Flack would not make him sympathetic with him.

Mr. Bird was perfectly satisfied with this model citizen, but Justice Barrett, who was the chief of the jury, said that Mr. Bird was not a juror.

Mr. Bird, excepted, and was astonished when the Court refused to note it. Justice Barrett explained that Mr. Bird was not a juror, but that he was a juror.

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FRED LESLIE'S PERIL.

Birchell Believed to Have Marked Him for a Victim.

Enticed to a Strange Room to Sit for a Picture.

Appointment with a Fellow Actor Which Perhaps Saved His Life.

(JOURNAL CLERK NEWS SPECIAL.)

LONDON, March 13.—Fred Leslie, the well-known actor of the Gaiety Company, said in an interview to-day that he firmly believed that he himself came near being made a victim of Reginald Birchell's murderous monomania.

It appears that while in America he was in the habit of receiving frequent requests to sit for his photograph.

Among those who wrote to Birchell, and while in New York he acceded to the latter's request and called, by appointment, at a certain house.

The door was opened by Birchell himself, who seemed to be alone.

There was a studio-like room at the back of the premises, but otherwise no appearance that the photographic business was being carried on there.

Leslie was posed for a profile portrait and Birchell threw a cloth over his head to obtain the proper focus, but there were no signs of any lens or camera.

The actor called Birchell's attention to this, but the latter replied that it was a "new style."

"This somehow reminded me," continued Mr. Leslie, "that Charley Danby, who is an amateur photographer, had promised to look in on me. On mentioning this to Birchell he turned deathly pale and seemed quite disconcerted."

"I now honestly believe that my making this statement was the only thing that saved my life, judging from subsequent developments, as it would have been the easiest thing in the world for Birchell to have used an air gun while pretending to focus me."

"I was wearing considerable jewelry at the time and had a large sum of money about me. However, Danby soon arrived and Birchell pretended to take his photo, but it never materialized, nor did I ever lay eyes on Birchell again."

A letter from Mr. Leslie, making an appointment for a picture, was among the papers found upon searching Birchell's luggage since his arrest in Canada.

BIRCHELL DULY COMMITTED.

And His Young Wife Returned to Her Boarding-House Custody.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

Niagara Falls, March 13.—Well, the preliminaries are over and Reginald Birchell, the adventurer, bogus son of an English Earl and a positive human enigma in crime, stands formally held for the murder of Frederick C. Benwell, whom he had pretended to be a friend, and who was killed by a bullet from a broken-down sweeping machine and the like.

When the Mayor learned that Mr. Leslie had run away this morning, instead of coming to the witness stand, he gave up all idea of calling a meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Hagen represents the Department at this meeting?

"That is what I am doing," was his reply. "The plan to be discussed is Commissioner Leslie's, and he should be present to advocate it."

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LOOMIS HAS GONE.

Mayor Grant Surprised by the Street-Cleaning Commissioner's Departure.

Not Resigned, but Gone Away for Ten Days.

Just on the Eve of Important Action by the Mayor on the Street-Cleaning Problem.

Street Commissioner Horace Loomis has not resigned, but he has done something which will call additional condemnation on him from the people.

He has deserted his post of duty when the city's streets are the dirtiest, and has appointed his political deputy, Edward P. Hagan, Acting Commissioner to manage the affairs of his Department during his absence.

Commissioner Loomis left on a Pennsylvania Railroad train this morning for Philadelphia. The information was vouchsafed by Chief Clerk Beardsley to THE EVENING WORLD reporter.

The length of time he intended to remain away from the city and neglect the pressing duties of his office is stated to be ten days, in a short official note which he forwarded to Mayor Grant.

The announcement of Mr. Loomis's flight was more than a surprise to Mayor Grant, who had expected to consult with him this morning on the subject of street cleaning and the possibility of a speedy solution of the present difficulties under which the Commissioner claims to be laboring.

The Mayor was ready to call a meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to set on Mr. Loomis's plan for cleaning the streets by special contract, which he will utilize his short vacation to the only method that will obtain the result.

"I had an interview with Commissioner Loomis yesterday," said the Mayor, "and he certainly looks ill. His complaint is neuralgia of the stomach, and he is in such a condition that he declared he could not stand the harassing cares of his office."

"He asked for a ten days' leave of absence in which to obtain rest, and says that he will utilize his short vacation to obtain information regarding street-cleaning methods in other cities."

It is understood that the Commissioner knows the Mayor that his trouble arises from an inability to sleep nights because of the persistent activity of reporters and the unwashed-for condolence of friends which is poured in on him at all hours of the day and night.

"In the manner of punishment," the Mayor declared, "the wind about the streets, such as confinement in coal-tanks, strait-jackets, &c."

He told how ten or twelve men were locked together, hand and foot. They escaped while Lieut. Werlick was officer of the deck. Their feet ironed had been sent around a long lower chain.

"The sentry was unable to watch all the prisoners, and the Lieutenant so reported."

"At night," Werlick says, "McCalla replied, 'we'll take additional precautions.' He then had the other prisoner's feet ironed with chains, which, were passed around a long lower chain."

In his list of unusual punishments the Lieutenant detailed the case of John Swartz, a second-class fireman, who was kept in a strait-jacket a week and then tried with iron on.

"I have ever seen an officer strike a man?"

"I never have. I have heard men soundly rated and called 'fools,' but beyond that I remember nothing."

The case of R. S. Graham, a seaman's apprentice, was one of unjust punishment," said Werlick.

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CHAINED LIKE WILD BEASTS.

McCalla's Method of Punishing Refractory Sailors.

Lieut. P. J. Werlick, a handsome specimen of a naval officer, was the first witness called by Judge-Advocate Perry Grant at the Court of Inquiry into Commander McCalla's case at the Navy-Yard this morning.

Lieut. Werlick was cool and self-possessed. Commander McCalla was visibly disturbed at his presence.

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BOUGHT BY JUDGE HILTON.

Leasehold for \$700,000.

At the Real Estate Exchange to-day the Stewart property, bounded by Broadway, Fourth Avenue, Ninth and Tenth streets, held under a lease from the Sailors' Snug Harbor, was sold to Judge Henry Hilton for \$700,000.

The sale was by direction of the executors of Cornelius M. Stewart, who was the millionaire who died in 1887.

The sale did not include the ground, which is owned by Sailors' Snug Harbor, but only the buildings and the leases of the ground.

Other property belonging to the Stewart estate was sold for sums ranging from \$5,100 to \$13,500, the principal buyer being Asher Weinstein, who got three leaseholds.